

TUSKEGEE'S GALA DAY,

The Commencement Exercises at Mr. Washington's Famous School—A Magnificent Showing of the Year's Work—Editor Scott's Eloquent Speech and a Representative Throng of Visitors.

Tuskegee, Alabama, Special—The commencement exercises of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute began Sunday, May 27th, at which time the commencement sermon was preached by Rev. H. H. Proctor, pastor of the First Congregational church, Atlanta, Ga., and closed Thursday, May 31st with commencement address by Rev. I. B. Scott, D. D., editor of the Southwestern Christian Advocate, New Orleans, La. Many persons, some 2,000 or more, visited the institute during the week to be present at the various exercises.

Monday evening the Phelps Hall Bible Training School exercises were held at which time the address was delivered by Rev. J. E. Smith, of Chattanooga, Tenn.

On Tuesday evening the fifth oratorical contest for the Trinity Church, Boston prize, took place. This is one of the greatest events of commencement week and yearly it grows in interest and power as the school's standard of scholarship is raised. The wisdom of Dr. Donald in establishing this prize is clearly seen. Six young men spoke, three from the graduating class and three from the incoming senior class.

On Wednesday evening the exercises of the Industrial and Agricultural departments were held. The platform of the large chapel was filled with most beautiful and interesting articles from the various departments. The agricultural department showed a splendid lot of vegetables, shocks of rye, oats and wheat, with a case of snow white honey in one pound sections. The dairy showed beautiful balls of butter, bottles of milk and cream and a number of cheese. The machine shop had an engine and castings, the blacksmith shop beautiful forge work, tinware from the tin shop, harness, shoes, suits for men and women and a fine buggy, representing the various departments. These, however, were not all the exhibits made by the industrial and agricultural departments. The exhibit room of the recently dedicated Slater-Armstrong Memorial Trades Building was thrown open to visitors on commencement day and in it were found every imaginable article from the 23 industrial departments of the school. The beautiful wagons and buggies and especially the beautiful trap made by five senior boys, won everybody's admiration. The painting, upholstery and everything about the trap were so perfect that many could not believe it was not made by experts. The beautiful furniture was very fine indeed and much credit is due the instructors and boys for the drawing and construction of the various articles. The agricultural display won the admiration of all. The quality and yield of wheat interested every one and no finer and plumper berry was ever seen in the Dakotas. Cows, calves, hogs, horses and sheep were brought together in a large pen so that all could see them. All the stock is of fine quality, the horses, cows, hogs and sheep being of especially fine breeds.

The year has been one of the most successful in the history of the school. The additions and improvements during the year have been varied and substantial. The Slater-Armstrong Memorial Trades Building to which ref-

erence has been made, has been completed. Huntington Hall, a dormitory for girls, will be ready for occupancy next year. Work on the Girl's Industrial Building, dairy barn, dairy house, and henry is proceeding satisfactorily. The enrollment this year has reached 1231; 872 boys, 359 girls. Twenty-seven states, 2 territories, Cuba, Porto Rico, Barbadoes, Jamaica and Africa have been represented. The raising of the course of study has cut down the number of graduates from 64 last year to 47 this year. Twenty-nine have received trade certificates this year and 18 of them are members of the senior class. A number has already received them in other years. Most of the others will remain to finish the normal course. Five graduates in agriculture, 4 in laundering, 3 each in cooking and nurse training, 2 each in harness making, brick making and brickmasonry, and 1 each from the machine, wheelwright, blacksmith and carpenter shops, one each in housekeeping, dressmaking and millinery. The graduates from the academic course number 36, 27 boys and 9 girls.

The report of Principal Washington to the Board of Trustees showed that the receipts for the year have been \$197,630. Of this amount \$94,490.08 has been spent for the current expenses of the institution, \$29,855.71 have been paid on last year's deficit, \$22,916.80 for building and improvements, and \$47,407.10 towards the endowment fund. The students paid in labor toward their expenses \$63,102.93. This is a splendid showing and one of which the race will be proud we are sure.

All of the exercises were well attended, and on commencement day excursions from Montgomery and many other nearby places brought crowds hear to the address of Dr. Scott. It was a splendid effort in every way. This strong man of the race proved his right to the great respect which he has won wherever he has been. He simply captivated his audience with the eloquent address which was delivered. Principal Washington is in every way encouraged in consequence of the success of the year's work.

E. JAY ESS.

HOTEL MEN MEET.

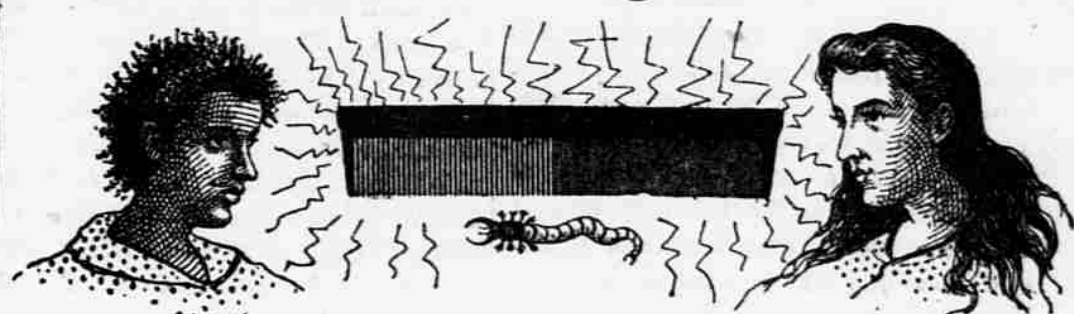
Prominent Headwaiters Hold a Big Convention and are Entertained by the Menongahelans.

Pittsburg, Pa., Special—The National Association of Head and Second Waiters convention met here on Monday at the Bethel A. M. E. church with a very large attendance. The welcome address to the city was delivered by Mayor W. J. Deihl. The opening address was delivered by J. L. Thomas of Harrisburg, responded to by W. A. Locke of Cairo, Ill. The morning session was devoted to seating of the delegates and hearing the reports of the officers. The secretary's report showed that the membership had increased from 100 to 225 since their first convention which was held at Chicago in 1899.

Monday evening the delegates were entertained by the members of the Epworth League of the Warren M. E. church. The second day's session was more interesting and the number of delegates in the convention was increased by the arrival of a large delegation from the West. The important questions before the convention on Tuesday was the establishing of a home for aged waiters and a school for waiters where the art of waiting

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be learned more perfect and kept up to a standard.

A great deal of attention was given to the matter of headwaiters issuing certificates to competent waiters. The president and executive committee were empowered to appoint state vice presidents. Tuesday afternoon the election of officers was held and resulted as follows: W. F. Ozart, of Columbus, Ohio, president; W. A. Locke of Cairo, Ill., vice president; J. B. Gains, of Rockford, Ill., corresponding secretary E. T. Montgomery, of Chicago, recording secretary, and Charles H. McCord, of Pittsburg, treasurer. A short session of the convention was held Wednesday morning and Columbus, Ohio was decided on for the next convention, after which the convention adjourned.

Wednesday afternoon the delegates visited the different hotels and attended the memorial exercises at the Lincoln memorial cemetery, the only cemetery owned by colored men in this part

of the state, and Wednesday evening they were tendered a banquet at Turner Hall, Allegheny City, which was one of the finest of its kind ever given in this city. Covers were laid for 150 couples, and after the banquet the tables were cleared and the hall made ready for dancing which lasted up to an early hour. Thursday morning the delegates left the city for their home much pleased with the hospitalities shown them by the Pittsburg people.

J. A. R. L.

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